

should be, of the effect that it has on the consumer and the person who has very little. It's right that we review the taxation policies and the tax codes of this State to see that they are proper and that they're shared among businesses and the consumer alike, and see that we offer advantages to the business community so they'll come to North Carolina and settle here to do business and employ people, because without employers we have no employees, and we have a failed system if people aren't working and aren't paid enough to provide shelter, healthcare, and transportation and to be able to provide for their family and to grow in their community. So I think it's incumbent that we make those reviews that are necessary to see that we have the revenue that is appropriate for a growing State such as ours. I care about the environment just as you do. Senator Metcalf and Senator Queen, you have one of the most beautiful places on this earth of ours. Being with you to travel through the mountains to see their glory and their beauty in the different seasons comes a great appreciation from me, but also understanding that there are polluting elements that are affecting the beauty of the mountains and where I live, the coast. When I pick up the paper to read that Raleigh discharges 128 thousand gallons, or 2.2 million gallons of untreated waste, for Senator Kerr if it's Kinston, for Senator Basnight if it's Manteo, it is wrong that we treat the waters and the streams and the lakes such as we do and so quickly turn our backs on what God gave us in this land of ours. I will continue to argue on your behalf and with you that we seek solutions that will guarantee for our future generations a better and cleaner environment than the track that we're presently on. I stand ready and I welcome the Republican minority to work together, Senator Ballantine, to work as one unit of people on behalf of all of us. To do it in a way and fashion that at the end of this session the successes will be often and great. I thank you very, very much for entrusting in me this position of leadership on behalf of you and the people of this State. Thank you."

RECONSIDERATION

Senator Soles offers a motion, seconded by Senator Rand, that the vote by which Senator Basnight was elected President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate be reconsidered and further moves that the motion to reconsider do lie upon the table, which motion prevails (48-2).

ADOPTION OF RULES

Senator Rand submits **S.R. 1**, A SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PERMANENT RULES OF THE SENATE FOR THE REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE 2003 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, for adoption. Upon motion of Senator Rand, S.R. 1 is placed before the Senate for immediate consideration. Senator Rand explains the following Rules which are revised from the 2001 Senate Rules:

- Rule 10(c): Comma inserted after "When a Senator is called to order" and before "that Senator shall . . ."
- Rule 17(i): Clarifying language added regarding the prohibition of the use of wireless communication devices, pagers, or laptop or notebook computers by Senators on the floor while the Senate is in session.
- Rule 24(b): "his" replaced with "the Chair's"
- Rule 28(a)(3): Second line rewritten to read: "Upon a majority vote of the Senators present and voting, the motion shall be adopted."